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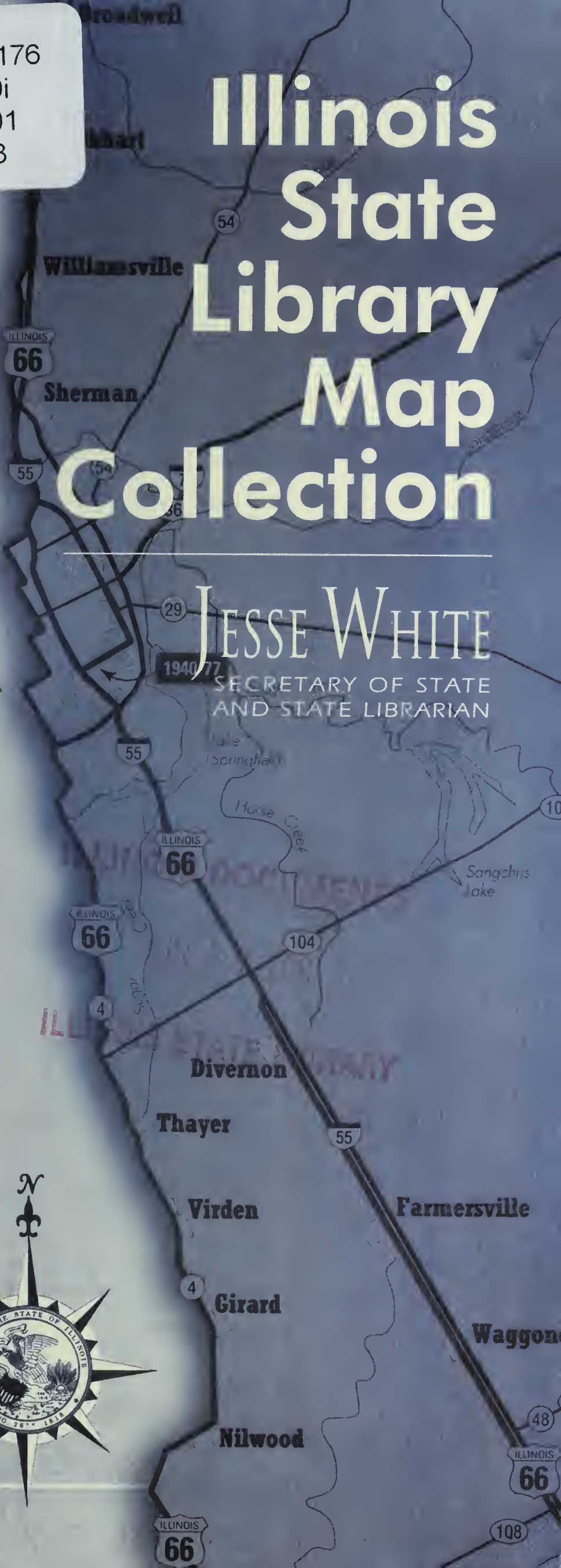
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Illinois State Library Map Collection

JESSE WHITE

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SECRETARY OF STATE
AND STATE LIBRARIAN

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The Illinois State Library has two basic responsibilities: to serve as a research library for state government and to coordinate the statewide network (ILLINET) of more than 4,000 academic, public, school and special libraries. To fulfill its research role, the State Library has acquired a significant map collection with an emphasis on Illinois maps.

Most of the 185,000 maps in the collection are received through the Illinois and federal documents depository programs.

Illinois Maps

The State Library has a large collection of 19th and 20th century plat books and maps showing land ownership in rural areas. The Sanborn fire insurance atlases on microfilm show urban areas of Illinois from the 1880s to 1970.

Other Illinois maps include:

- County highway maps from 1937 to the present,
- Official state highway maps from 1917 to the present,





- Statewide historical maps include Tanner's 1833 Illinois map and David Burr's 1834 Illinois map of postroads.

More recent maps include coal mine subsidence maps, taxing district maps, flood maps, census geography maps, wetlands maps, and election district maps.

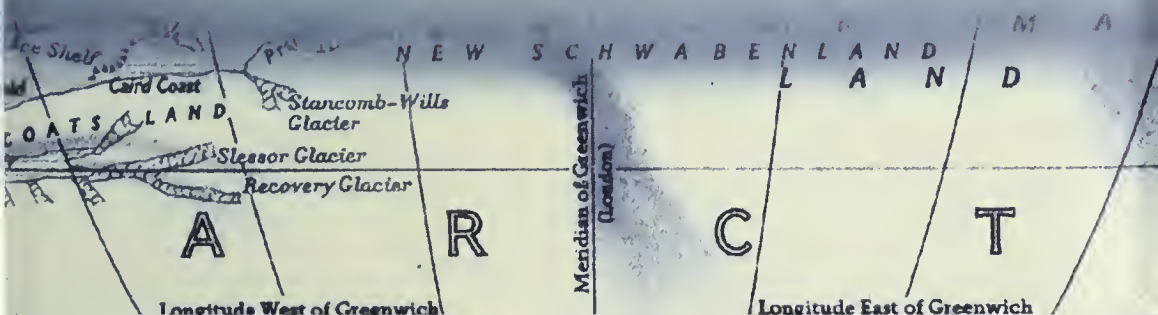
The State Library also makes available outline maps for patrons who want to draw their own.

U.S. Maps

The U.S. map collection includes:

- State highway maps,
- National forest maps,
- Nautical charts,
- County soil surveys,
- City street maps,
- Topographic maps for all states.

Historical collections include the U.S. Geological Survey folios; maps of 19th





century expeditions to the west; select county plat maps and atlases in microform; and decennial census maps for metropolitan areas back to 1960.

Foreign Maps

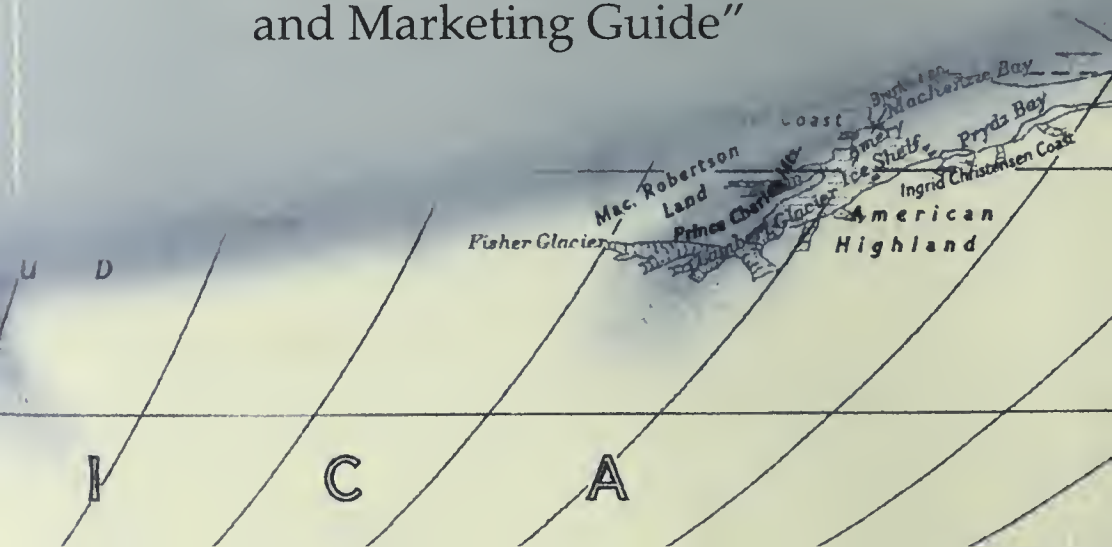
A select collection of foreign maps includes nautical charts of foreign waters, general maps of countries, and detailed late 19th and early 20th century maps on microfiche of Germany, Poland and Austria.

Atlases, Gazetteers and Carto-bibliographies

These and other reference books support and complement the sheet map collection.

Atlases – groups of maps bound in book format:

- “Historical Atlas of the United States Congressional Districts”
- “Historical U.S. County Outline Map Collection 1840-1980”
- “Rand McNally Commercial Atlas and Marketing Guide”



- “National Atlas of the United States of America”
- “Township Atlas of the United States”
- Illinois atlases
- General world atlases
- Historical atlases
- Road atlases
- Selected foreign national atlases
- Selected military atlases
- Thematic atlases for states

Gazetteers – dictionaries of place-names, such as towns, mountains and rivers, listing location, history and other information:

- “A Gazetteer of Illinois” (1837)
- “Ghost Towns of Southern Illinois”
- “Illinois Geographic Names Alphabetical Finding List”
- “Illinois: Guide and Gazetteer”
- “Illinois Place Names”
- “Indian Place Names in Illinois”
- Gazetteers for many states
- U.S. Board on Geographic names gazetteers for most foreign countries
- “Bibliography of Place-Name Literature”

Carto-bibliographies – bibliographies listing maps and atlases:

- “Checklist of Printed Maps of the Middle West to 1900”
- “Fire Insurance Maps in the Library of Congress”
- “GEOKATALOG”



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- "Index to Maps in Books and Periodicals"
- "Mapping the Trans-Mississippi West, 1540-1861"
- "Research Catalog of Maps of America to 1860 in the William L. Clements Library"
- "United States Atlases"
- New York Public Library/Map Division catalog
- "Views and Viewmakers of Urban America"

Services and Access

State Library staff is available to help patrons and answer inquiries during regular library hours. Most maps are accessible through the library's online catalog. Many of the maps can be circulated or loaned. Photocopying services are also available.

HOURS: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays, except state holidays.

For More Information

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